

What is claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical aerosol formulation which comprises:
 - (i) fluticasone propionate and
 - (ii) a hydrofluoroalkane (HFA) propellant,characterised in that the fluticasone propionate is completely dissolved in the formulation.
2. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1 which comprises:
 - (i) fluticasone propionate;
 - (ii) a hydrofluoroalkane (HFA) propellant;
 - (iii) a low volatility component to increase the mass median aerodynamic diameter (MMAD) of the aerosol particles on actuation of the inhaler; and
 - (iv) a solubilisation agent in sufficient quantity to solubilise the fluticasone propionate in the formulation.
3. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1 wherein the hydrofluoroalkane (HFA) propellant is 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane (HFA134a).
4. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1 containing a low volatility component which is glycerol, propylene glycol or polyethylene glycol.
5. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 4 containing a low volatility component which is polyethylene glycol.
6. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 4 containing a low volatility component which is glycerol.
7. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 4 wherein the low volatility component is present at a concentration of 0.5 to 3% w/w.
8. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1 which comprises:
 - (i) fluticasone propionate;

- (ii) 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane (HFA 134a);
- (iii) 0.5-3% (w/w) glycerol; and
- (iv) a solubilisation agent in sufficient quantity to solubilise the fluticasone propionate in the formulation.

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9. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 1 which contains between 0.8 and 1.6% (w/w) glycerol.

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10. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 9 which contains between 1.0 and 1.6% (w/w) glycerol.

11. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 10 which contains 1.3% (w/w) glycerol.

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12. A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 10 which contains 1.0% (w/w) glycerol.

13. A formulation according to claim 1 wherein the concentration of fluticasone propionate is 0.025 to 0.15% w/v.

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14. A formulation according to claim 13 wherein the concentration of fluticasone propionate is 0.035 to 0.15% w/v.

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15. A formulation according to claim 14 wherein the concentration of fluticasone propionate is 0.04 to 0.1% w/v.

16. A formulation according to claim 13 wherein the concentration of fluticasone propionate is 0.025 to 0.04% w/v.

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17. A formulation according to claim 1 wherein a solubilisation agent is present which is ethanol or propylene glycol.

18. A formulation according to claim 1 wherein a solubilisation agent is present which is an alkane or ether.
- 5 19. A formulation according to claim 1 wherein a solubilisation agent is present which is dimethoxymethane.
20. A formulation according to claim 1 wherein a solubilisation agent is present which is ethylacetate.
- 10 21. A formulation according to claim 17 wherein a solubilisation agent is present which is ethanol.
22. A formulation according to claim 21 wherein the concentration of ethanol is 5 to 30% w/w.
- 15 23. A formulation according to claim 22 wherein the concentration of ethanol is 10 to 20% w/w.
- 20 24. A formulation according to claim 22 wherein the concentration of ethanol is 7 to 16% w/w.
- 25 25. A formulation according to claim 22 wherein the concentration of ethanol is 7 to 11% w/w.
26. A formulation according to claim 22 wherein the concentration of ethanol is 7 to 8% w/w.
- 30 27. A formulation according to claim 19 wherein the concentration of solubilisation agent is 14 to 16% w/w.
28. A canister comprising a metering valve and containing a composition according to claim 1.

29. A canister according to claim 28 comprising an aluminium can which is anodised, lacquer-coated and/or plastic coated.
30. A canister according to claim 29 which is coated with a fluorocarbon polymer.
- 5 31. A canister according to claim 28 fitted with a metering valve of metering volume 100 μ l.
- 10 32. A metered dose inhaler which comprises a canister as claimed in claim 28 fitted into a suitable channelling device.
33. A metered dose inhaler according to claim 32 wherein the channelling device comprises a mouthpiece actuator having an actuator orifice of diameter 0.25mm or less.
- 15 34. A method of treating respiratory disorders which comprises administration by inhalation of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical aerosol formulation according to claim 1.
- 20 35. A formulation according to claim 20 wherein the concentration of solubilisation agent is 14 to 16% w/w.
36. A formulation according to claim 14 wherein the propellant is 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane and a solubilising agent is present which is ethanol.
- 25 37. A formulation according to claim 15 wherein the propellant is 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane and a solubilising agent is present which is ethanol.
- 30 38. A formulation according to claim 36 wherein a low volatility to increase the mass median aerodynamic diameter (MMAD) of the aerosol particles on actuation of the inhaler component is present which is glycerol at a concentration of 0.5-3% w/w.

39. A formulation according to claim 37 wherein a low volatility to increase the mass median aerodynamic diameter (MMAD) of the aerosol particles on actuation of the inhaler component is present which is glycerol at a concentration of 0.5 -3% w/w.